

# Basic information on the State programme for families



## **What is STÄRKE and who can take part?**

STÄRKE is a state programme that aims to promote parenting skills and help families improve their children's potential for development by providing local family education services to (future) parents throughout the cities, towns and districts of Baden-Württemberg.

## **What does the STÄRKE programme offer?**

### **Open meetings**

Open meetings are available to all families free of charge, offering a space to meet and connect with other families to share information and experiences. Meetings are held at easily accessible educational venues and are intended for (growing) families at all stages of family development. They offer parents the opportunity to discuss the issues that relate to their current needs and situation and to obtain information on other services and financial support available to families.

### **Services for families in special living situations**

If you find yourself in a special living situation, you may be able to benefit from services that meet your particular requirements at a reduced rate or even free of charge. You can access these services regardless of your child's age.

Special living situations include

- Single parent families
- Early parenthood (at least one parent under 18 years)
- Families with twins / multiple births
- Families where parents are separated/divorced
- Families with same-sex parents
- Refugee and migrant families
- Families that have experienced violence
- Family members with illnesses (including addictions), disabilities, or nursing needs

### **Family education camps**

Families in special situations can also take part in a family education camp or weekend event tailored to their specific target group. Financial support is also available for these events.

## **Where can I find information on the STÄRKE programme services?**

Information on the STÄRKE Programme services is available from the authority in charge of family matters at your local town hall or district administrative office and on the official website for your town or district. You can also contact parent-child centres, maternity centres and other family education providers to find out more about the latest services and events.